

TOP SECRET

1028

GENERAL

1. US seeks British support of Austrian regiment plan--The Department of State has asked the US representative at the Austrian treaty negotiations to obtain the concurrence of the British Foreign Office in the plan for the formation of an Austrian gendarmerie regiment now. The Department states that the British oppose the plan for the present on the ground that such action would affect the treaty negotiations. The Department concludes that because the US and France feel that delaying the plan until after 1 September would adversely affect western security interests, they are prepared to launch the program in their zones about 15 July, regardless of British participation.

FAR EAST

2. CHINA: Stuart receives veiled invitation from Mao Tse-tung--US Ambassador Stuart reports that he has received a veiled invitation from Communist leaders Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai to talk with them while ostensibly visiting Yenching. Stuart received the impression that whatever the motives of the two leaders may be, they are very eager for him to make the trip. Stuart points out that through such a meeting he could gain authoritative information regarding Communist intentions; make a step toward a better mutual understanding, possibly strengthening thereby the more liberal anti-Soviet element of the Communist Party; and describe US policy to Communist leaders. On the other hand, he points out that such action would: (a) constitute a second step toward recognition of the Communist regime; (b) possibly embarrass the Department of State both in China and the US; and (c) cause other western nations to feel the US has broken the diplomatic front concerning China.

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